

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 EB-11 IO-13 RSR-01

/084 W

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R 091430Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 1551

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS DURBAN 0294

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, SOCI, SF

SUBJ: USSALEP VISITOR SPEAKS HIS MIND

1. MR. JAMES JOSEPH, ONE OF THREE BLACK DELEGATES NOW IN DURBAN UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE US-SA LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE PROGRAM (USSALEP), CREATED SOME CONTROVERSY HERE BY PUBLICLY EXPRESSING HIS DISGUST WITH APARTHEID. ALL DELEGATES ARE STAYING AT A TEMPORARILY INTEGRATED HOTEL IN DURBAN, BUT JOSEPH HAS REFUSED USE SOME OF HOTEL'S NORMALLY "WHITES ONLY" FACILITIES IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT "WHEN WE ARE ALL GONE EVERYTHING WILL RETURN TO NORMAL".

2. IN A SERIES OF PRESS INTERVIEWS, JOSEPH ATTACKED APARTHEID AS THE "MOST REFINED SYSTEM OF SUBJUGATION EVER DEvised BY MAN"; DESCRIBED THE TOWNSHIPS HE HAD VISITED DURING THE LAST THREE WEEKS AS DORMITORIES OF CHEAP LABOR FOR THE WHITES WHICH CAN NEVER BECOME REAL COMMUNITIES; AND ARGUED THAT WHILE BLACKS WANT TOTAL CHANGE IN SA, WHITES WANT MERELY TO "RATIONALIZE OPPRESSIONS". JOSEPH SAID THAT ORIGINALLY HE HAD BEEN HESITANT TO COME TO SA BUT HAD CHANGED HIS MIND AFTER MEETING CHIEF BUTHELEZI DURING ONE OF THE KWAZULU EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR'S TRIPS TO THE US. IF I LIVED IN SA,
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HE SAID, GATSHA BUTHELEZI WOULD BE MY PRIME MINISTER.

3. DAILY NEWS REPORT CLAIMED THAT JOSEPH'S "STRONG
CRITICISMS" HAD BEEN RECORDED BY AN "INTERNATIONAL TELEVISION
NETWORK" AND WOULD BE SHOWN TO "MILLIONS OF AMERICAN VIEWERS".
THE USSALEP CONFERENCE HERE HAS BEEN CLOSED TO OUTSIDERS
AND JOSEPH'S COMMENTS WERE MADE TO THE PRESS BETWEEN SESSIONS
WHICH JOSEPH DESCRIBED AS FRANK AND EXPLICIT. IT IS
IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE A CONFERENCE LIKE THIS WITHOUT "RACE
CONSCIOUSNESS", HE SAID.
COMRAS

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NNN

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